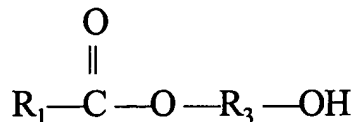
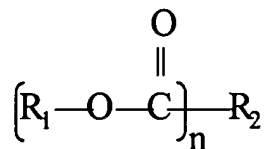
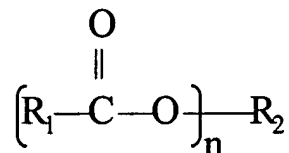


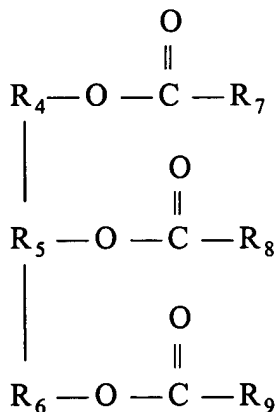
Appendix A
Marked-up Copy of Amended Claims

1. (Amended) A gel composition, comprising:
an ester compound; and
a polymer compound having at least one rigid block and one elastic block selected from the group consisting of triblock copolymers, star polymers, radial polymers, multi-block copolymers, and combinations thereof,

wherein the gel composition is substantially free of mineral oils,
wherein the ester is represented by one of the following formulas:



or



wherein $n=1, 2, 3$, and 4 , and

R_1 includes hydrogen, hydrocarbyl, phenyl, methoxyphenyl, alkylphenyl, substituted alkyl, and substituted phenyl; R_2 includes hydrogen, hydrocarbyl, phenyl, methoxyphenyl, alkylphenyl, substituted alkyl, substituted phenyl, alkylene, phenylene, substituted alkylene, and substituted phenylene, and R_3 includes alkylene, phenylene, substituted alkylene, or substituted phenylene, and

wherein R_4 , R_5 , and R_6 individually include alkylene, phenylene, substituted alkylene, or substituted phenylene, and R_7 , R_8 and R_9 individually include hydrogen, hydrocarbyl, phenyl, methoxyphenyl, alkylphenyl, substituted alkyl, and substituted phenyl.

20. (Amended) A gel composition, comprising:

a compound selected from the group consisting of alcohols, ethers, ~~naturally occurring fats and oils~~, and combinations thereof; and

a polymer compound selected from the group consisting of diblock copolymers, triblock copolymers, star polymers, radial polymers, multi-block copolymers, and combinations thereof.

25. (Amended) A method of making a gel composition, comprising:

mixing an ester compound with a polymer compound having at least one rigid block and one elastic block selected from the group consisting of triblock copolymers, star polymers, radial polymers, multi-block copolymers, and combinations thereof,

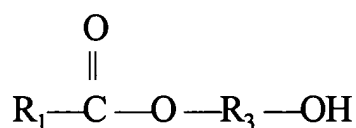
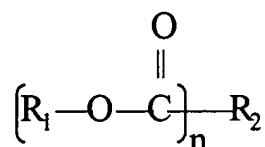
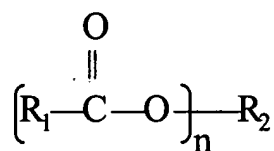
heating the mixture;

agitating the mixture until the mixture becomes homogeneous; and

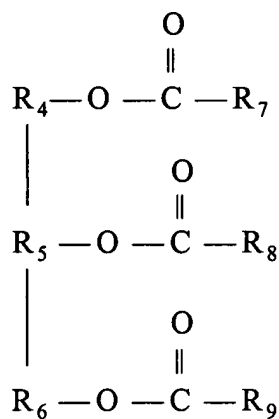
cooling the mixture,

wherein the gel composition is substantially free of mineral oils,

wherein the ester is represented by one of the following formulas:



or



wherein n=1, 2, 3, and 4, and

R₁ includes hydrogen, hydrocarbyl, phenyl, methoxyphenyl, alkylphenyl, substituted alkyl, and substituted phenyl; R₂ includes hydrogen, hydrocarbyl, phenyl, methoxyphenyl, alkylphenyl, substituted alkyl, substituted phenyl, alkylene, phenylene, substituted alkylene, and substituted phenylene, and R₃ includes alkylene, phenylene, substituted alkylene, or substituted phenylene, and

wherein R₄, R₅, and R₆ individually include alkylene, phenylene, substituted alkylene, or substituted phenylene, and R₇, R₈ and R₉ individually include hydrogen, hydrocarbyl, phenyl, methoxyphenyl, alkylphenyl, substituted alkyl, and substituted phenyl.

26. (Amended) A method of making a gel composition, comprising:
mixing an alcohol, an ether, and combinations thereof ~~or a naturally occurring fat or oil~~ with
a polymer compound selected from the group consisting of diblock copolymers, triblock
copolymers, star polymers, radial polymers, multi-block copolymers, and combinations thereof,
heating the mixture;
agitating the mixture until the mixture becomes homogeneous; and
cooling the mixture.